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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/608,256
	Filing Date	June 27, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Hiroki Igarashi
	Art Unit	3754
	Examiner Name	Paul J. Hirsch
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	034620-000003

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): 1449 citing 18 pieces of art Limited Recognition Under 37 CFR §10.9(b)
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Masako Ando, Limited Recognition Under 37 CFR §10.9(b)
Signature	
Date	4/30/04

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.	
Typed or printed name	Carol Prez
Signature	
Date	4-30-04

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Hiroki Igarashi
SERIAL NO.: 10/608,256
FILING DATE: June 27, 2003
TITLE: Flow Control Device
EXAMINER: Unassigned
ART UNIT: Unassigned

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class
Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,
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Date: 4-30-04

Name: 
Carol Diez

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Each item of information listed in the attached FORM PTO-1449, for which a copy of each is attached (unless the blanket waiver referred to below applies), may be material to the examination of the above-identified application and is, therefore, submitted in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The Examiner is requested to review, consider and document each such item in the official record of this application.

Note: If this box ☒ is checked, this case was filed after June 30, 2003 and qualifies for the blanket waiver of deposit of copies of U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application

Publications in accordance with the written waiver of 37 CFR §1.98 (a)(2)(i) dated July 11, 2003. Accordingly, such copies are not attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that any one or more of these items constitutes prior art.

I

This statement is filed pursuant to (**CHECK ONE BOX**):



37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

This information disclosure statement is filed either:

- (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
- (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application;
- (3) before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits; or
- (4) before the mailing of a first office action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114, **whichever event occurs last.**

Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires no fee and no certification.



37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c).

This information disclosure statement is filed **after** the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), but **before** the mailing date of any of the following:

- (1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113;
- (2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311; or
- (3) an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires either:

- (1) the fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c); or
- (2) a certification according to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) or (2).



37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d).

This information disclosure statement is filed **after** the period specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c).

Accordingly, this information disclosure statement requires:

- (1) a certification in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e); and
- (2) the fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p) to consider an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d).

If this statement crosses in the mail with an office action, or is otherwise not in the indicated category of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, it is respectfully requested that this statement be treated in the next appropriate category and made of record. **To the extent required, please treat this paper as a conditional petition for acceptance of the information disclosure statement.**

II

Fees Due (**CHECK ONE BOX**):

☒

No fee is due.

☐

The fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) or 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) is enclosed (**\$180**).

III

Certification (**CHECK ONE BOX**):

☒

No certification is necessary.

☐

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned hereby certifies:
That each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

☐

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), the undersigned hereby certifies:
No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

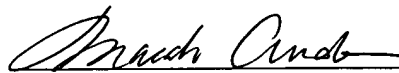
IV

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment to our deposit account number 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,
THELEN REID & PRIEST LLP

Dated: April 30, 2004



Masako Ando

Limited Recognition Under 37 CFR §10.9(b)

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Form PTO 1449 (Rev. 11-2002) U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office				Atty. Docket No. 034620-000004		Serial No. 10/608,256		
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant				Applicant: Hiroki Igarashi				
(Use several sheets if necessary)				Filed: June 27, 2003		Group: Unassigned		
U.S. Patent Documents								
Init.		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date	
	A	4,635,897	1/13/87	Gallant				
	B	2,876,937	1/11/57	Wilson				
	C	3,724,807	4/3/73	Jackson				
	D	5,441,231	8/15/95	Payne et al.				
	E	4,824,072	8/25/89	Zakai				
	F	4,953,824	9/4/90	Baumann				
	G	6,047,943	4/11/00	Hussey				
	H	4,548,382	10/22/85	Otting				
	I	5,549,793	8/27/96	Hellstrom et al.				
	J	4,682,755	7/28/87	Bernstein et al.				
Foreign Documents								
							Translation	
Init.		Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No
	K	9-311726	1997	JP			Abstract	
	L	4-252850	1992	JP			Abstract	
	M	56-95667	2000	JP			Abstract	
	N	11-37339	1999	JP			Abstract	
	O	2-84071	1990	JP				X
	P	195 22 488	1996	DE			Abstract	
	Q	2,150,629	1996	CA			Abstract	
	R	P2000-35145A	2000	JP			Abstract	
Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)								
Examiner					Date Considered			
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.								